

Accordingly, the above waiting list is expected to be cleared progressively during the 8th Plan period.

[Translation]

Use of Modern Printing Techniques by Newspaper

6242. SHRIBRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be please to state:

(a) whether due to use of modern printing techniques by large industrial houses of newspapers, the small newspapers are in crises;

(b) whether the Government propose to lay down guidelines for the encouragement of small newspapers, to compete with big newspapers;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide small modern printing machines to small newspaper, published in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). Though the use of modern printing technology might give some advantages to large newspapers compared to small and medium newspapers, Government have been sympathetic to the growth of small and medium newspapers and have extended concessions from time to time to them to facilitate a balanced growth for the Press in the country consistent with the policy of maintaining the freedom of press.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Validity of setting up of Disc Antennae

6243. SHRIBARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be please to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1291 on 4.3.91 and state the steps taken by the Government on the report given by the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): The Recommendation of the Inter-Departmental Committee to study various aspects of establishment of Cable TV Networks and Dish-Antennae Systems are under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Losses of Indian Airlines

6244. SHRI P.M. SYEED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is loosing heavy amount by allowing airlines passengers to carry cabin baggages in excess of prescribed limit;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against those found guilty; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such a loss in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Passengers are allowed to carry

cabin baggage in accordance with specific instructions in this regard.

[Translation]

Revision of Steel Prices

6245. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) when the steel prices were last revised;

(b) since then, the percentage increase in its price and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the steel prices are likely to be increased in the coming fiscal year; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to manage the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Base prices of steel in respect of the main producers were last revised by the Joint Profit Committee (JPC) on 19.9.1990.

(b) Since then there has been no general price increase of steel in respect of the main of producers.

(c) and (d) The JPC system of price regulation on the products of the main producers was dispensed with on 16.1.1992. Depending upon the market situation, the main producers may revise their prices as and when warranted.

[English]

Response to Power Bonds

6246. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the response to the power bonds issued by the Government has been poor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The comparatively poor response to power bonds during 1991-92 could be attributed to tight money market, availability of other attractive financial instruments in the market, high supply of PSU Bonds in the secondary market, provision for tax deduction at source etc. The PSUs under the Department have been advised to diversify suitable financial instrument and adopt appropriate market strategies.

[Translation]

Tourism in Rajasthan

6247. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists who visited Rajasthan during the last six months;

(b) the names of important tourist resort visited by them and the number of tourists who visited those places;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct any survey in regard to linking Ajmer by air service to facilitate and increase domestic and foreign tourists visiting Ajmer and Pushkar; and